

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONROV 01615 071725Z

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

DODE-00 IO-06 PM-03 SP-02 L-01 H-01 PA-01 PRS-01

/044 W

-----080128Z 058684 /14

R 071554Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3881

INFO AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 1615

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PFOR, LI, SF

SUBJECT: NEW SOUTH AFRICAN INITIATIVES TO THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA

1. GOL AMBASSADOR TO ROME DAVID M. THOMAS IS PRESENTLY IN MONROVIA AND CALLED ON THE AMBASSADOR LAST WEEK TO BRIEF HIM ON THE STATE OF PLAY BETWEEN THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA.

2. THOMAS SAYS THAT PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FROM ROME HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY SAG REPRESENTATIVES (PERMREP/NEW YORK, PERMREP/GENEVA, AND THEIR AMBASSADOR IN ROME) WITH A REQUEST FROM VORSTER THAT THOMAS PROCEED TO SOUTH AFRICA FOR URGENT CONVERSATIONS. THOMAS LISTENED POLITELY TO THE REQUEST BY THE SAG REPRESENTATIVES BUT DECLINED TO GO DIRECTLY TO SOUTH AFRICA PENDING APPROVAL OF PRESIDENT TOLBERT WHICH HE CAME TO MONROVIA TO SEEK.

2. COMMENT: THOMAS WAS THE GOL OFFICIAL WHO ACTED AS ADVANCE MAN FOR THE VORSTER-TOLBERT TALKS IN FEBRUARY 1975 AND HE SPENT SOME TIME VISITING IN SOUTH AFRICA AND HELD TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER VORSTER. HE SUBSEQUENTLY HAS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MONROV 01615 071725Z

BEEN THE GOL-SAG CONTACT MAN. END COMMENT.

3. THOMAS TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT TOLBERT WAS SOMEWHAT CAUTIOUS ABOUT APPROVING THOMAS' TRIP BECAUSE THE GOL WAS NOT ALTOGETHER CLEAR AS TO WHAT THE SAG HAD IN MIND AT THIS TIME AND BECAUSE THE GOL WAS STILL RECOVERING FROM SOME OF THE WOUNDS THAT HAD BEEN INFLICTED BY OTHER OAU MEMBERS

FOLLOWING THE REVELATION OF THE VORSTER-TOLBERT MEETING.

4. THOMAS, WHO IS STILL IN MONROVIA AWAITING A FURTHER MEETING WITH TOLBERT, BELIEVES THAT THE SAG WISHES TOLBERT TO USE HIS GOOD OFFICES IN MEDIATING WITH OTHER AFRICAN STATES DURING 1977.

5. EMBASSY IS POUCHING TO AF/S A COPY OF A LETTER THOMAS RECEIVED FROM THE SAG REPRESENTATIVES IN ROME AND A COPY OF THOMAS' MEMORANDUM TO PRESIDENT TOLBERT ON THE SUBJECT OF SOUTH AFRICA.

6. THOMAS SAYS THAT HE WAS NOT UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO BRIEF THE USG BUT WAS DOING SO BECAUSE OF HIS RECOGNITION OF OUR INTEREST IN THIS SUBJECT. HE ALSO OF COURSE WISHES TO BE PROTECTED ON THIS, PARTICULARLY HIS MEMORANDUM TO PRESIDENT TOLBERT. IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT PRESIDENT TOLBERT MAY ASK THE AMBASSADOR FOR HIS VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT AND SO ANY GUIDANCE THE DEPT MIGHT WISH TO OFFER WOULD BE WELCOME.
CARTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, INVITATIONS, VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: X1
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From: MONROVIA
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